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1 LISTING OF CLAIMS

2 CLAIMS

3 We claim:

4 1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

5 descriptor logic, said apparatus for controlling flow of data between first and second data  
6 processing systems via a memory, said descriptor logic for generating in entirety a plurality of  
7 descriptors including a frame descriptor defining a data packet to be communicated between a  
8 location in the memory and the second data processing system, and

9 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and

10 a descriptor table for storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic for access by the  
11 first and second data processing systems.

12 2. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said apparatus employs  
13 Logical Communication Port architecture, and the descriptor table is stored in one of the first  
14 data processing system and the second data processing system.

15 3. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptor table is stored  
16 in the second data processing system.

17 4. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said apparatus employs  
18 Logical Communication Port architecture, and the descriptor logic generates a branch descriptor  
19 comprising a link to another descriptor in the descriptor table.

20 5. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the descriptor table comprises a  
21 plurality of descriptor lists sequentially linked together via branch descriptors therein.

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1 6. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the descriptor table comprises a cyclic  
2 descriptor list.

3 7. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said apparatus employs  
4 Logical Communication Port architecture, and the first data processing system comprises a host  
5 computer system.

6 8. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second data processing system  
7 comprises a data communications interface for communicating data between the host computer  
8 system and a data communications network.

9 9. (previously presented) A data processing system comprising:  
10 a host processing system having a memory, a data communications interface for communicating  
11 data between the host computer system and a data communications network, and  
12 apparatus comprising:

13 descriptor logic, said apparatus for controlling flow of data between first and second data  
14 processing systems via a memory, said descriptor logic for generating in entirety a plurality of  
15 descriptors including a frame descriptor defining a data packet to be communicated between a  
16 location in the memory and the second data processing system, and

17 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and

18 a descriptor table for storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic for access by the  
19 first and second data processing systems, for controlling flow of data between the memory of the  
20 host computer system and the data communications interface

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- 1 10. (currently amended) A method comprising controlling flow of data between first and second  
2 data processing systems via a memory, the step of controlling comprising:
- 3 by descriptor logic, generating in entirety a plurality of descriptors including a frame descriptor  
4 defining a data packet to be communicated between a location in the memory and the second data  
5 processing system,
- 6 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and
- 7 storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic in a descriptor table for access by the  
8 first and second data processing systems.
- 9 11. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising storing the descriptor table in the first  
10 data processing system.
- 11 12. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising storing the descriptor table in the  
12 second data processing system.
- 13 13. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising, by the descriptor logic, generating a  
14 branch descriptor comprising a link to another descriptor in the descriptor table.
- 15 14. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, comprising linking a plurality of descriptor lists  
16 together in series via branch descriptors to form the descriptor table.
- 17 15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first data processing system  
18 comprises a host computer system.
- 19 16. (original) A method as claimed of claim 10, wherein the second data processing system  
20 comprises a data communications interface for communicating data between the host computer  
21 system and a data communications network.

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1 17. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having  
2 computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing control of flow of data  
3 between first and second data processing systems, the computer readable program code means in  
4 said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means for causing a  
5 computer to effect the functions of claim 1.

6 18. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium  
7 having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing data processing, the  
8 computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising computer  
9 readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the functions of a data processing  
10 system comprising:

11 a host processing system having a memory, a data communications interface for communicating  
12 data between the host computer system and a data communications network, and

13 apparatus comprising:

14 descriptor logic, said apparatus for controlling flow of data between first and second data  
15 processing systems via a memory, said descriptor logic for generating in entirety a  
16 plurality of descriptors including a frame descriptor defining a data packet to be  
17 communicated between a location in the memory and the second data processing system,  
18 and

19 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and

20 a descriptor table for storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic for access  
21 by the first and second data processing systems, for controlling flow of data between the  
22 memory of the host computer system and the data communications interface.

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1 19. (previously presented) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium  
2 having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing control of flow of  
3 data between first and second data processing systems, the computer readable program code  
4 means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for  
5 causing a computer to effect the steps of a method comprising controlling flow of data between  
6 first and second data processing systems via a memory, the step of controlling comprising:

7 by descriptor logic, generating a plurality of descriptors including a frame descriptor defining a  
8 data packet to be communicated between a location in the memory and the second data  
9 processing system,

10 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and

11 storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic in a descriptor table for access by the  
12 first and second data processing systems.

13 20. (previously presented) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a  
14 program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for controlling flow  
15 of data between first and second data processing systems, said method steps comprising the steps  
16 of a method comprising controlling flow of data between first and second data processing  
17 systems via a memory, the step of controlling comprising:

18 by descriptor logic, generating a plurality of descriptors including a frame descriptor defining a  
19 data packet to be communicated between a location in the memory and the second data  
20 processing system,

21 a pointer descriptor identifying the location in the memory; and

22 storing the descriptors generated by the descriptor logic in a descriptor table for access by the  
23 first and second data processing systems.

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